

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMA KO 01707 270832Z

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SIL-01 /026 W

-----270915Z 008535 /23

R 261719Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6296

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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DAKAR FOR RLO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB SOPN ML

SUBJECT: A NIGHT WITH THE WORKERS

1. THREE USIA-PRODUCED VIDEO TAPES WERE FEATURE OF INAUGURATION APRIL 18 OF NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WORKERS NEW SOCIAL CLUB. CLUB WAS RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED AS ANNEX TO NATIONAL HEAD-QUARTERS AND WILL HOLD REGULAR CULTURAL PROGRAMS FOR MALIAN UNIONISTS. UNTM SECRETARY GENERAL SEYDOU DIALLO CHOSE U.S. THEMES FOR OPENING NIGHT PROGRAM AND INVITED EMBASSY, AID, AND USIS OFFICERS AS GUESTS. FRENCH AND YUGOSLAV CHARGES ALSO ATTENDED.

2. PROGRAM STARTED WITH VTR ON AFRICAN DANCE PERFORMANCES ON WASHINGTON MALL DURING BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL OF UNDERSTANDING. FILM ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S INAUGURATION FOLLOWED, AND USIA INTERVIEW OF SENATOR DICK CLARK AFTER HIS RETURN FROM 1976 AFRICAN TOUR CONCLUDED PROGRAM. THIS LAST VTR WAS SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY SECRETARY GENERAL DIALLO, WHO HAD SEEN IT PREVIOUSLY AT DCM'S RESIDENCE.

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3. PRESIDENT CARTER'S ELOQUENT EVOCATION OF AMERICAN IDEALS IN INAUGURAL ADDRESS VISIBLY MOVED AUDIENCE OF 75 UNION LEADERS, INCLUDING MOST OF SECRETARIES GENERAL FROM 13 NATIONAL UNIONS. FOLLOWING INAUGURATION FILM, SECRETARY GENERAL OF TEACHERS' UNION COMMENTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WAS A MAN WHO OBVIOUSLY KNEW WHERE HE WAS HEADED. SECRETARY GENERAL OF POSTAL WORKERS' UNION

ADDED THAT INAUGURATION ADDRESS WAS GREAT STATEMENT OF FAITH AND PURPOSE. OVER LAMB ROAST AFTER PROGRAM, UNIONISTS ASSERTED THAT VTR'S HAD GIVEN REAL DEMONSTRATION OF DEMOCRACY. "WE ENVY AMERICA ITS LIBERTY," VOLUNTEERED LOCAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL. "AMERICA REMAINS FOR US," HE CONCLUDED, "THE STANDARD OF FREE DEMOCRATIC POLITICS." ONLY NEGATIVE NOTE WAS COMMENT BY ONE UNIONIST THAT CLARK SHOULD HAVE ADVOCATED SUPPLY OF U.S. ARMS TO THOSE FIGHTING MINORITY REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. COMMENT: EVENING PROVIDED UNUSUAL OPENING TO MALI'S UNION LEADERS, MANY OF WHOM FAVOR TIES WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES AND UNIONS. CAREFULLY BALANCED PROGRAM, COMMUNICATED THROUGH SOPHISTICATED MEDIUM OF VIDEO TAPE (THERE IS NO TELEVISION IN MALI), PROVED PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN PRESENTING U.S. POLICY VIEWS TO KEY UNION LEADERSHIP AND IN DEMONSTRATING U.S. CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES.  
BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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